REPORT ON THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT

OF

A MULTI-PURPOSE FRANCO-ONTARIAN CULTURAL CENTRE

IN THE OTTAWA-CARLETON REGION

PLANNING BRANCH

CITY OF OTTAWA

MAY, 1981

PREAMBLE

"Franco-Ontarians are linked with the cultural traditions of France by language, by literature, and by cultural forms of expression such as the theatre. They possess in common with the people of Québec and with other Francophones in the country a French-Canadian cultural background; this explains why they cannot remain unaffected by the culture of Québec. Finally, they have developed on the soil of Ontario their own sense of values which finds expression in artistic manifestations which one can readily term "franco-ontarian"...(Savard Report, p.4).

also:

"The composite term "Franco-Ontarian" is of recent usage...minority and marginal situation of the Francophones of Ontario." (Pierre Savard, "De la difficulté d'être Franco-Ontarien". (The Problem of Being a Franco-Ontarian), in the "Revue du Nouvel-Ontario", Sudbury, issue no. 1 (1978), p. 12-13.

and:

The cultural centre...centre of cultural development for the Franco-Ontarian community where a learning experience is possible as much in physical activity as in recreational, social and artistic activities."

Extracts translated from "Onze centres culturels franco-ontariens: Eléments de trajectoire et d'horizon"; (Eleven Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centres: Direction of Movement and Breadth of Development); report presented to the Assembly of Cultural Centres by Pierre Pelletier, 22 September, 1979, p. 5 and 7.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the Study

The Regional Council of ACFO has endeavoured for a number of years to find a means of establishing a cultural centre in the region. Thus, attempts have been made in the part to gain possession for this purpose of the Byward Market building, which was newly renovated, of the synagogue situated at the corner of King Edward and Murray Streets (subsequently demolished to allow for the extension of St. Patrick St.), and of the former Osgoode Public School situated in Sandy Hill, which has now become the Franco-Jeunesse School. None of these efforts were successful.

Another building aroused the interest of the Regional Council of ACFO last year when it was learned that the Separate School Board of Ottawa was closing Guigues School on Murray Street, with the pupils to be transferred to the renovated Routhier School. The closing of Guigues School became necessary with the reduction in the number of students in that sector of the City. In such a situation, a school board is required by provincial legislation to offer the land and building to the municipality before it is placed on the open market. Consequently, the City of Ottawa has assessed the necessity of acquiring the property to meet the needs of the municipality, particularly those relating to housing and recreation.

During this same period of time, the Regional Council of ACFO had made known to the municipality its interest in obtaining the school as the locale for a cultural centre that could be of benefit to the Franco-Ontarians of the region. The municipality indicated to the School Board that it saw merit in this proposal but that additional time would be needed to examine it fully.

The School Board, therefore, agreed to delay its original date for advertising the property on the open market, thereby giving the municipality time to study the merits and advantages of a multi-purpose francophone cultural centre either at Guigues School or elsewhere in the municipality.

1.2 Scope of the Study

This report is concerned with an evaluation of the merits of the proposal that a multi-purpose francophone cultural centre be established in Ottawa and of the needs that such a centre would fulfill. It deals in particular with the possibility that a multi-purpose cultural centre for Franco-Ontarians be located in Guigues School, as advocated by A.C.F.O.

1.3 Method of Analysis

The findings of this study have been based in large part on a series of interviews conducted with key persons.[1] Use has also been made of written information, both statistical data[2] and general documents.

The methodology of the analysis in this study involved four main elements. First, the preparation of a summary statement on the role and purpose of the Regional Council of ACFO; second, an inventory of the various groups and institutions that exert and influence, directly or indirectly, on the promotion and preservation of French Canadian culture; third, a profile of the Francophone community of the Region, with emphasis on Ottawa, touching on particular aspects such as the general characteristics of this population, its geographic location in the city, and the number of community groups and associations serving its interests; fourth, a concise inventory of the existing community

programs and facilities that are linked in a direct or indirect way with French Canadian cultural matters and that serve the Francophone community. This analysis enables us to measure the need for a multi-purpose francophone centre in the municipality of Ottawa.

A description and an evaluation of the ACFO proposal is included in the study. Reasons why Guigues School is the preferred locale for the establishment of a cultural centre are outlined.

Finally, the study deals briefly with the financial aspects, such as the purchase of the land and building, the sources of funds and the costs of operation.

A series of observations are drawn from this analysis and relevant recommendations are then set forth.

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1. Statistics Canada: Census Report.

2. a) L'école Guigues: centre culturel franco-ontarien: (Guigues School: a Franco-Ontarien Cultural Centre); (working document prepared by ACFO).

   b) Pour un centre culturel francophone aménagé dans l'Ecole Guigues, rue Murray, February 1981; (For a Francophone Cultural Centre in Guigues School on Murray Street); working document prepared by ACFO.

   c) Letter from Mrs. Aline Roy, Cultural Committee, Regional Council of ACFO, addressed to Mr. R. Roberts, Director, Urban Policy and Research Division, City of Ottawa, November 29, 1979.

   d) Relevé de la communauté francophone d'Ottawa: (Survey of the Francophone community of Ottawa), Recreation Branch, City of Ottawa, November 1, 1979. Recreation Branch, City of Ottawa, November 1, 1979.

   e) Proposed Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centre - Former Guigues School Building: Ericksson - Padolsky, Architects and Urban Design Consultants, June 25, 1979.

   f) Onze centres culturels franco-ontariens - Éléments de trajectoire et d'horizon; (Eleven Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centres: Direction of Movement and Breadth of Development); P. Pelletier; report presented to the Assembly of Cultural Centres, September 22, 1979.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITY AND THE EXISTING SERVICES

The use of the term "multi-purpose centre" is preferable to the expression "cultural centre." It is a better description of the proposal as defined by ACFO and creates less confusion for persons and groups connected in one way or another with the project.

2.1 What is A.C.F.O.?

The Regional Council of the Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario serves as the regional structure of the provincial body (founded in 1910 and incorporated in 1915). The regional organization of ACFO represents the interest of all the francophones of the Ottawa-Carleton Region as well as francophone groups, associations and institutions.

The Regional Council of ACFO has the responsibility of assuring that the francophone community of Ottawa-Carleton is represented at the level of municipal, provincial and federal authorities, of encouraging the development and growth of the interests and rights of Franco-Ontarians and protecting them in all fields of education, economy, politics, employment, justice, culture, health and community and social affairs. It also acts as a coordinator of collective action taken by francophone associations and organizations of the region.

Thus, for example, the Regional Council of ACFO has been actively engaged in promoting the establishment of a French language school board in the Ottawa-Carleton Region, as proposed in the Mayo Report. It has organized the Franco-Ontarian Festival for the past six years, held in Confederation Park, and this event has been increasingly successful from year to year.

The Regional Council of ACFO is a non-profitable organization. Its financing is derived, annually, from three different sources, being the AFCO prvincial head office, governmental agencies (Secretary of State, Arts Council, Ministry of Employment, Ministry of Culture and Recreation-Wintario) and from donation from individuals, merchants and community associations. As of this year, a membership fee is being charged to those who wish to adhere to the Association.

The grants received from the ACFO provincial organization ensures the administration and operations of the regional office. This grant amounted to approximately $8,000.00 in 1980. Furthermore, some printing and postal services and the expenditures incurred by the regional animation services are to be added to this grant.

The ACFO Regional Council also relies on the francophone population to alleviate special expenditures. A fund raising campaign is organized yearly to collect contributions from francophone associations, merchants and individuals. This campaign reaches approximately 500 persons and allows to collect approximately $3,000.00.

The financing of specific projects is covered by way of subsidies and grants from governmental agencies such as the Secretary of State, the Arts Council, Wintario (Ministry of Culture and Recreation), the Ministry of Employment, the City of Ottawa and the City of Vanier, etc. The ACFO Regional Council received over $42,000.00 in subsidies and various grants last year.

2.2 Other Francophone Organizations

A multitude of regional, provincial, or national bodies also pursue the objective of promoting and preserving French Canadian culture. Other regional groups exist in order to represent and serve the francophone community. Amongst them there are the l'Institut

canadiens-Français (French Canadian Institute), l'Association des aînés francophones d'Ottawa (Association of francophone senior citizens), Théâtre Action (organization to promote drama in French), La Corvée (theatre troupe), Le théâtre des lutins (theatre troupe for kids and teenagers), et l'Institut culturel et social de Vanier (Cultural and social institute of Vanier) at the local level; l'Association des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO) niveaux élémentaire et secondaire (association of Franco-Ontarian teachers: elementary and secondary levels), la Fédération des associations de parents et instituteurs (FAPI)(federation of parent-teacher associations), Direction-Jeunesse (youth organization), la Fédération des élèves du secondaire franco-ontarien (FESFO)(federation of Franco-Ontarian secondary school students), and l'association française des conseils scolaires de l'ontario (AFCSO) (association of french language school boards of Ontario) at the provincial level; and la Fédération des francophones hors Québec (F.F.H.Q.) (federation of Francophones outside Québec), la Fédération des jeunes canadiens-français hors Québec (F.J.C.F.H.Q.) (federation of French Canadian youth outside Québec), la Fédération des femmes canadiennes-françaises (F.F.C.F.)(federation of French Canadian women), la Fédération des Sociétés St. Jean Baptiste (federation of St. Jean Baptiste societies) at the national level, with provincial and local structures as well in some cases.

It should be mentioned, finally, that the various media outlets play a significant role in the reinforcement of French Canadian culture, serving as they do as an excellent means of diffusion of information.

The above inventory serves to indicate the high degree of organization achieved by the Franco-Ontarian community at the national and provincial levels as well as in the Ottawa-Carleton Region, and the efforts the Franco-Ontarians have made to protect and expand their culture. It also clearly demonstrates their determination to equip themselves with the means to achieve their objectives.

However, many deficiencies do exist that affects the proper functioning of those organizations. For one, several of them do not have adequate quarters, be it in terms of amount, appropriateness and/or location of existing spaces used. Other organizations make best of parish halls, schools or other locale, and in most cases, having to share it with other groups and associations thus affecting the public awareness of their role.

Another problem is the dispersion of the various non-profit organizations working towards a common goal and, as a result, a duplication of secretarial services, where existing. This does considerable hardships to the proper identification of the various groups and to the level of communication between themselves.

An established facility, where several of these organizations can regroup and share common services such as meeting rooms and secretarial services, would increase their efficiency, improve the public awareness of their role and, economically, provide a more affordable and viable working arrangement, namely in terms of rental and operating cost.

2.3 Profile of the Francophone Community of Ottawa

The network of francophone organizations mentioned above is supported by a strong francophone population. Furthermore, this population forms an organized and active community, though somewhat divided into areas, as can be seen from the following facts:

TABLE 1

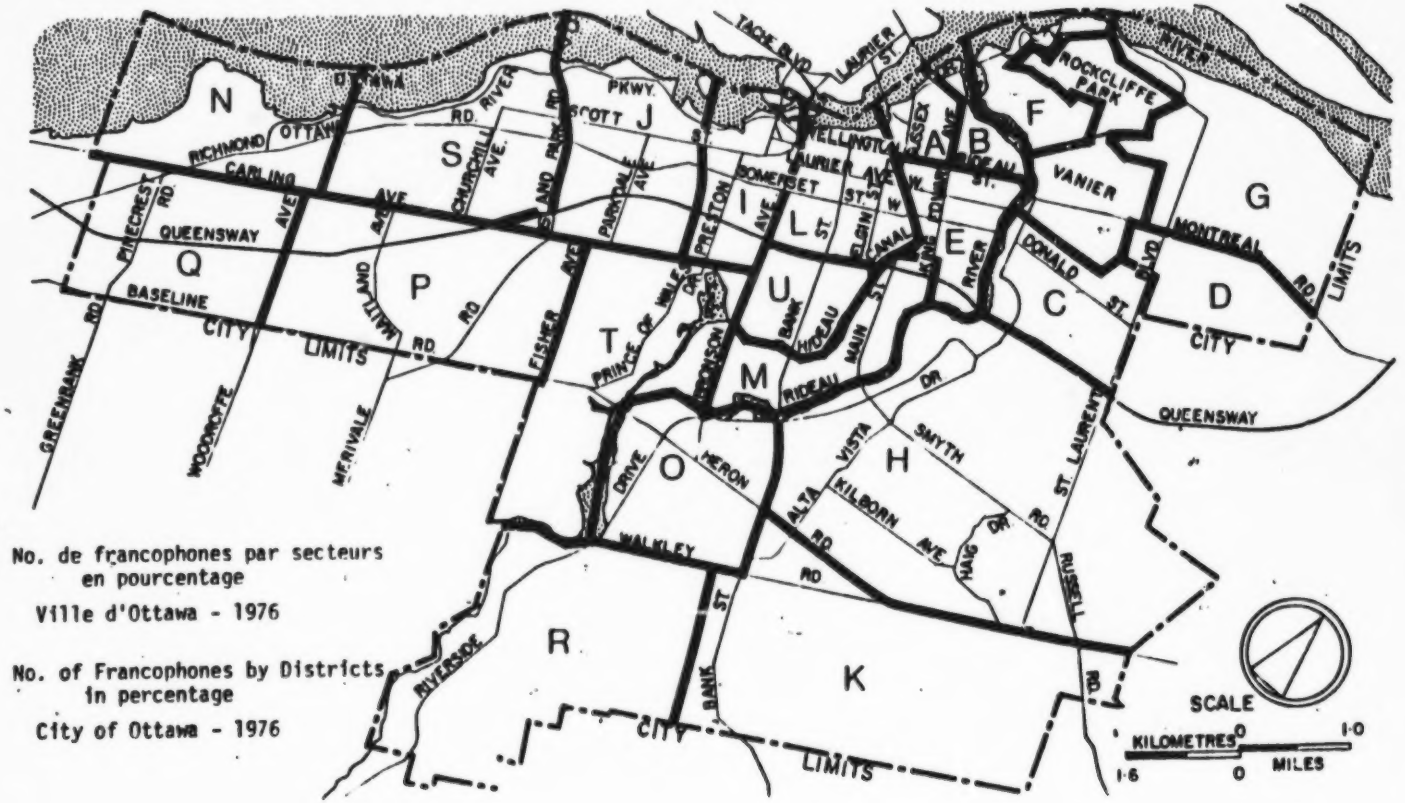
DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND BY DISTRICT

District	Census Tract	Pop. Tot.	Pop. Fran.	%	%		
					0-19	20-54	55+
Alta Vista (E)	5(2/3),6, 7.01, 8, 9, 10, 11.01, 11.02	43,861	9,043	20.6	33.3	49.4	18.1
Overbrook (E)	12, 13	10,637	5,280	49.6	37.4	42.4	20.2
Sandy Hill (E)	14, 50, 51, 52	13,116	4,890	37.3	20.7	56.2	22.6
Lowertown East (E)	53, 56	7,013	4,365	62.1	22.6	48.2	29.1
Forbes (E)	61, 62.01	9,638	4,240	44.0	36.9	50.8	12.3
Centretown	37, 38, 39, 40, 48, 49	22,273	3,305	14.9	15.6	59.7	23.7
Ottawa West	34, 43, 44, 45(½), 46	18,784	3,270	17.4	27.5	49.0	25.1
Alexander	21, 22, 23, 24, 25(2/3)	29,618	2,957	9.9	31.3	49.2	19.4
Manor Park (E)	59, 60, 62.02	10,376	2,635	25.4	32.1	53.4	14.9
Dalhousie	35, 41, 42, 47	13,452	2,530	18.9	22.9	54.9	22.2
Lowertown West (E)	54, 55	3,648	2,525	69.2	22.6	48.2	29.1
Albion (E)	1.01, 1.02, 5(½), 7.02	14,655	2,507	17.1	34.5	51.9	13.6
Britannia	29, 30, 31	16,434	2,020	12.3	26.9	53.1	20.0
New Edinborough (E)	57, 58	5,588	1,930	34.5	19.9	51.1	29.0
Queensway-Pinecrest	25(1/3), 26, 27, 28	18,461	1,728	9.3	36.4	48.9	14.6
Westboro	32, 33, 45(½)	20,216	1,705	8.4	23.7	46.4	29.9
Ottawa South (E)	15, 16, 17	12,229	1,645	13.5	24.1	51.0	24.9
Mooney's Bay (E)	3, 4	8,595	890	10.3	29.9	52.9	20.2
Glebe	18, 19(½), 36	12,562	810	6.4	23.8	47.0	24.5
Carleton-Heights	19(½), 20	9,248	781	8.4	28.4	51.3	20.3
Hunt Club (E)	2	5,425	505	9.3	39.7	51.5	8.8
TOTAL (City of Ottawa)	-	304,462	59,495	19.5	28.1	50.8	21.1
TOTAL for districts situated east of the Rideau Canal (E)	-	144,781 (47.3%)	40,455 (68.0%)	27.9	29.5	50.6	20.2
City of Vanier	-	19,812	12,630	63.7	19.8	63.6	16.6
City of Gloucester	-	56,516	15,405	27.3	32.5	61.0	6.5
City of Nepean	-	76,947	4,330	5.6	28.5	62.6	8.9

* Statistics from Census of Canada, 1976.

A - Basse-ville ouest Lowertown West	69.2%	H - Alta Vista	20.6%	O - Mooney's Bay	10.3%
B - Basse-ville est Lowertown East	62.1%	I - Dalhousie	18.9%	P - Alexander	9.9%
C - Overbrook	49.6%	J - Ottawa ouest Ottawa West	17.4%	Q - Queensway-Pinecrest	9.3%
D - Forbes	44.0%	K - Albion	17.1%	R - Hunt Club	9.3%
E - Côte de Sable Sandy Hill	37.3%	L - Centre-ville Centretown	14.9%	S - Westboro	8.4%
F - New Edinburgh	34.5%	M - Ottawa sud Ottawa South	13.5%	T - Carleton Heights	8.4%
G - Manor Park	25.4%	N - Britannia	12.3%	U - Glebe	6.4%

City of Ottawa - 19.5%
City of Vanier - 63.7%
City of Gloucester - 27.3%
City of Nepean - 5.6%



No. de francophones par secteurs en pourcentage

Ville d'Ottawa - 1976

No. of Francophones by Districts in percentage

City of Ottawa - 1976

2.3.1 The Population

In 1976, there were 107,060 persons in the Ottawa-Carleton Region whose mother tongue was French, or 20.6% of the total population (520,300). Of this number, 59,495 (55.6%) resided within the city limits of Ottawa and made up 19.5% of the Ottawa population (304,462).

The francophone population in the City of Ottawa is largely concentrated east of the Rideau Canal. (This is true also for the City of Vanier where 63.7% (12,630) are francophone and the City of Gloucester, where 27.3% (15,405) are francophone compared to 5.6% for the City of Nepean for instance). As indicated in Table I and shown on the attached map, 68.0% (40,455) of the total population of Ottawa resides in 12 of the 21 sectors of the City, that is in the 12 sectors east of the Rideau Canal. Eight of those 12 sectors have a francophone population that is greater in proportion than that of Ottawa (19.5%). The four other sectors (Albion, Ottawa South, Mooney's Bay and the Hunt Club), all have a smaller percentage of Francophones. These four sectors are contiguous and constitute essentially the southern part of the City.

The age distribution of the francophone population in the City of Ottawa is of interest. Thus, close to 30% of the Francophones are between 0 and 19 years, some 50% are between 20 and 54 years and approximately 20% are over 55. This division of the population by age groups differs little from that of the City of Ottawa as a whole (Table I), except for a slightly higher percentage of persons in the 0 to 19 group, and a somewhat lower percentage in the over 55 group.

Thus, if a multi-purpose francophone centre were to be established in the municipality, it should be situated preferably east of the Rideau Canal and easily accessible so that it could serve most effectively the francophone community.

2.3.2 Schools, Parishes and Community Organizations

The Schools

The francophone community of Ottawa makes use of 36 educational institutions, made up of schools, colleges and universities. Thirty of these establishments are situated east of the Rideau Canal (Table II) where the majority of Francophones are located.

Leaving aside the University of Ottawa and the Algonquin College, the number of francophone students attending primary and secondary French language schools in the municipality of Ottawa totals 12,478. Not included in this amount is Guigues School and five other schools that have been closed.

The Parishes

As shown in Table II, 12 of the 19 parishes meeting the needs of the francophone community of Ottawa are situated east of the Rideau Canal. The four urban sectors of the south part of Ottawa are largely within the sphere of interest of St. Thomas Acquinas parish of Alta Vista. This situation tends to lessen considerably the identification of Francophones in these sectors with the francophone community, since, as is well known, it is the parish structure that normally plays a key role in the community life of French Canadians.

TABLE II

INVENTORY OF SCHOOLS, PARISHES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS BY DISTRICT

District	School, College and University	Parish	Community Org.*	Comment
Alta Vista (E)	8	3	28	
Overbrook (E)	8	2	19	
Sandy Hill (E)	4	2	11	
Lowertown East (E)	2	1	18	
Forbes (E)	1	1	14	
Centretown	0	1	2	
Ottawa West	2	2	12	
Alexander	2	1	9	
Manor Park (E)	1	0	5	This district belongs to the St. Louis de Montfort parish in Forbes district.
Dalhousie	0	0	6	
Lowertown West (E)	1	1	10	
Albion (E)	1	0	1	
Britannia	0	0	1	This district comes under the St. Rémi parish in Queensway-Pinecrest district.
New Edinborough (E)	1	1	7	
Queensway-Pinecrest	1	2	12	
Westboro	1	1	3	
Ottawa South (E)	1	1	6	
Mooney's Bay (E)	1	0	1	This district comes under the St. Thomas Aquinas parish of Alta Vista district.
Glebe	0	0	1	This district comes under the Christ-Roi parish in Centretown.
Carleton Heights	1	0	0	This district comes under the St. Thomas Aquinas parish in Alta Vista district.
Hunt Club (E)	1	0	3	This district comes under the St. Thomas Aquinas parish in Alta Vista district.
TOTAL (City of Ottawa)	36	19	169	
TOTAL for the districts situated east of the Rideau Canal (E)	30	12	123	

* Includes the social clubs, service clubs, parent-teacher associations, credit unions, scouts, parish committees and all other organizations of a like nature. Organizations listed in the preceding section, dealing with ACFO and not constituted at the district level, are not included here.

The Community Organizations

The term "community organization" is used in this study as one covering all the organizations and community associations operating at the urban sector level, such as parish committees, social and service clubs, parent-teacher associations, credit unions, etc. Not included in the term are federal, provincial and regional organizations that are not organized on a sector basis.

The number of community organizations per urban sector is a useful factor for analysis. Where such francophone community organizations exist, they are witness to the solidarity of the community life of the Francophones and a clear indication of the vigor and force of community spirit.

There are at the present time no less than 169 francophone community organizations in the 21 districts of the municipality (Table II). Of these, 123 (72.8%) are located in the 12 districts situated east of the Rideau Canal. The majority of these non-profit organizations comprise of volunteers and operate at the parish level. They use the schools, parish halls and municipal community centres located within their area to hold their activities.

In summary, the francophone community of Ottawa and the region is a well established, vigorous and well organized community. Its growth and development is facilitated by the concentration of its members in areas east of the Rideau Canal.

However, the francophone community of Ottawa faces certain problems and deficiencies. This is particularly the case with regards to the groupings of francophone residents west of the Rideau Canal whose numbers are so small as to make a francophone community life precarious. There are difficulties also at the level of socio-cultural organization in certain so-called francophone districts where, proportionately, there is a limited number of organizations relative to the number of Francophones. This is the case for Sandy Hill and Manor Park in particular. Also, no assembly hall exist that favours any interrelationship between Francophones residing in different areas of the City and that can act as a testimony of the vivaciousness of that community. A multi-purpose centre of francophonie, as proposed by ACFO, would certainly be able to help overcome these shortcomings and would at the same time contribute to the reinforcement of francophone community life.

2.4 Existing Programs and Facilities

A distinction should be made between socio-cultural and recreational activities and those activities which can be classed as artistic and cultural. We think of socio-cultural and recreational activities as encompassing all leisure-time pursuits in the broadest sense, including handicrafts, cooking, sewing, hobbies, social games, indoor and outdoor sports and all other similar activities that provide recreation and diversion. By contrast, we take artistic and cultural activities to mean those endeavors which contribute to the personal development of the individual, including the theatre, cinema, music, singing, dancing, painting, sculpture, literature, poetry and so on. With these definitions as a framework, this study sets forth a brief outline of the programs and facilities that exist in the socio-cultural and recreational fields, and to an even greater extent those that relate to the arts and culture given the nature of ACFO's proposal.

2.4.1 Socio-cultural and Recreational Programs and Facilities

Residents of the region and of Ottawa have access to a multitude of programs and activities that correspond to their socio-cultural and recreational needs. These services are made available without charge or at a minimum cost. They are offered mainly by the municipalities through a network of community facilities. The number and variety of the programs offered and the extent of the network of facilities vary according to the needs of the clientele and in proportion to the tax revenues of the municipalities.

The municipality of Ottawa, for example, possesses an extensive range of community facilities, reflecting the nature and size of its population. It operates no less than 19 community centres, 10 arenas, and 8 indoor swimming pools, quite apart from the public beaches, such as Britannia and Mooney's Bay, the Civic Centre at Lansdowne Park, and a number of district and neighbourhood parks, some better organized than others.

The programs offered at these places are available in great number. They vary from one community centre to another according to the interests of the participants and the staff available.

In 1979, more than 561,607 persons made use of the facilities at 19 community centres of the municipality of Ottawa. Of this number, 280,580 persons (50%) registered for the various programs offered at these centres; 72,075 persons (12.8%) participated in special events such as festivals, fairs and film showings; 208,952 persons (37.2%), as members of various organizations, used the centres for their own purposes (Table III). Statistics are not available indicating the number of Francophones who made use of the community centres. However, five of the nine community centres located in the districts east of the Rideau Canal, including Patro, offer French and/or bilingual socio-cultural and recreational programs. Socio-cultural and recreational programs in bilingual format are also offered by the City of Vanier whose population is 63.7% francophone.

Apart from the municipalities, the quasi-public non-profit organizations and agencies in the private sector also offer socio-cultural and recreational services. Good examples are the school boards with their adult education programs;* the YM-YWCA agencies; the Ottawa Boys and Girls Club, and an indefinite number of private establishments such as athletic centres, health studios, craft centres, schools for the martial arts and cinemas. The majority of these institutions are anglophone except, namely, for the two school boards.

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*The adult education program offers bilingual academic, socio-cultural (such as handicrafts) and artistic (such as painting, sculpture, etc.) courses.

TABLE III

TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT COMMUNITY CENTRES OF THE CITY OF OTTAWA: 1979-80

Session	Age Groups				Sub-Total	Group and Organization	Special Activities	TOTAL
	Pre-school 0-5 years	Child 6-12 yrs.	Adolescent 13-18 years	Adult 19 yrs.+				
Winter	7,169	26,255	10,503	44,201	88,128	36,492	9,892	134,51
Spring	5,247	20,028	9,786	20,018	55,079	64,095	31,864	151,03
Summer	4,781	20,019	6,365	28,414	59,579	47,121	13,612	120,31
Autumn	8,238	25,775	10,847	31,706	77,794	61,244	16,707	155,74
TOTAL	25,435	92,077	37,501	124,339	280,580	208,952	72,075	561,60

SOURCE: Community Centres Division, Recreation Branch, City of Ottawa.

The above information clearly shows that the francophone community has access to socio-cultural and recreational programs and facilities. However, only five of the nine community centres located east of the Rideau Canal, of which two were opened in 1979, offer French and/or bilingual programs. The four other centres located east of the Rideau Canal and the ten centres located west of the Canal offer programs that are predominantly English with French activities available upon request.

Needless to say that the application of this policy pertaining to French services, is insufficient in those districts where Francophones are in minority. In the fourteen (14) predominently anglophone community centres, the programs are offered in English only by priority. If a sufficient number of Francophones requests for French services, then only in those instances that such a service is given. Otherwise, those Francophones who are interested in participating in the City's recreation program must either engage in the English-language segment of the program or go to another district where it is available in French. The situation is similar with regard to programs offered in arenas and indoor pools, although not as serious since the programs are fewer.

2.4.2 Artistic and Cultural Programs and Facilities

The francophone community is less well treated when it comes to services concerned with culture and the arts, the primary goal of the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre. Its needs are met in part by public institutions such as the Ontario Arts Council (grants), the colleges and universities, the school boards (programs of adult education), the Ottawa School of Arts, and by private establishments such as art galleries, dance studios and music centres, not to mention the Ottawa Municipal Drama Centre and the Ottawa Little Theatre which are accessible to the Francophones but serve the anglophone community. It should be mentioned, also, that the region has a privileged status as the national capital, inasmuch as it has been endowed with the National Arts Centre, the National Gallery, the Public Archives and the National Library.

However, these programs and facilities do not meet the aspirations of the Franco-Ontarians in an adequate manner. The majority of them are of educational slant and of general interest. They do not correspond to the nature of Franco-Ontarian cultural and artistic life. The centres do not constitute places where Franco-Ontarian artists can improve their talents, develop as individuals and exchange ideas with others.

The existing institutions which can best respond to the needs of the Franco-Ontarians, although they too are oriented toward education and general interests, are: Algonquin College, the University of Ottawa and the Ottawa School of Arts. Because of a certain degree of specialization of teaching, the first two institutions can meet the needs of the Franco-Ontarians more adequately than the Ottawa School of Arts, but even so, they both give emphasis to academic training for people who wish to obtain degrees or diplomas. By contrast, the Ottawa School of Arts, a public non-profit organization, is concerned above all with offering to people a learning opportunity, a chance to improve their talents and to engage in promotion of the arts. The programs of the School, available in both official languages, are open to all age groups.

This formula of artistic training should normally be able to meet the needs of Franco-Ontarians. A compilation of the number of Francophones registered for the Autumn-Winter programs of 1979-1980 shows, however, that there is a very limited participation. As shown in Table IV, the Ottawa School of Arts is, essentially, an anglophone institution with only 5.9% francophone registration for the Autumn courses and 6.5% for the Winter courses. These small percentages prevailed even though a quarter of the teaching staff (6 out of 25) are Francophones with a knowledge of English and some of the anglophone teachers have a knowledge of French. The majority of the courses, though offered, in principle, in both official languages, are given in English with instruction in French available on request since the Anglophones outnumber the Francophones.

One of the main reasons for this limited participation of Francophones derives from an obvious lack of effort to attract Francophones. All the publicity is unilingual English which is then translated and photocopied, thus allowing some savings. The result is a second class publicity which often reaches the francophone population shortly before the beginning of the programs, if not after. Consequently, due to its strong unilingual English character, the Ottawa School of Arts can only vehiculate the English culture, thus, not being able to spark the interest of the Francophones in participating in the various programs it offers.

TABLE IV

REGISTRATION AT THE OTTAWA SCHOOL OF ARTS

	Autumn, 1979	Winter, 1980
Registered full time	693	695
Registered for weekend courses	119	123
Users of studios	17	22
Registrations in special activities	101	N/A
Totals	930	840
Number of Francophones	55	55
Percentage of Fracophones	(5.9%)	(6.5%)

Source: Survey of registration cards prepared for purposes of this study.

It is evident that very few institutions offer artistic and cultural programs that are adapted to the needs of the Franco-Ontarians of the region. The National Arts Centre and the National Gallery have responsibilities that are national in scope. The adult education programs of the school boards, Algonquin College and the University of Ottawa, by their academic orientation, are not able to ensure that Francophones have an opportunity for personal and continuous development in artistic and cultural fields. The Ottawa School of Arts, largely supported by the City of Ottawa for 26 years, does attempt by means of its courses offered in both languages and its bilingual staff to meet the needs of Francophones. But, unless there

is a profound change in the way it conducts its courses, it will not be able to meet the needs of Francophones in the immediate future or even in the longer term. Its proposals for expansion and for the establishment of a municipal art gallery at 35 George St. amount to an improvement over the unsatisfactory situation at 159 Forward St. and a recognition of the need for a meeting centre accessible for the artists of the region generally.

3. THE ACFO PROPOSAL AND ITS EVALUATION

3.1 Chronology of Events

It is in 1975 that the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Council of ACFO first initiated discussion with the City of Ottawa for the establishment of a cultural centre.

This initial action aimed at converting the second floor of the ByWard Market Building into a francophone theatre in which movies and social events would also be held. With the support of three drama groups, the 'Atelier d'Ottawa', the 'Theatre des lutins' and the 'Gilles Provost Company', the ACFO was negotiating a deal for more than a year.

Meanwhile, alterations were brought to the subject building which made their proposal an expensive proposition and resulted in their withdrawal. The City was left without a francophone theatre and two of its three professional francophone theatre groups folded.

It is only in 1977 that the ACFO reopened the subject file. At that time, some groups interested in establishing a theatre were negotiating for the use of the old synagogue at the corner of King Edward Avenue and Murray Street. This attempt was unsuccessful as the City had plans to demolish the subject building in order to make way for the connection of the St. Patrick/Murray Streets couplet.

During that same year, following consultations with several interest groups, the ACFO developed the idea of providing the region with a multi-purpose francophone centre instead of a single theatre. Discussions were initiated with the N.C.C. in order to obtain a site. The preferred site was a building located on York Street where a Toronto-based company had established a theatre hall before declaring bankruptcy. This project had to be abandoned by ACFO due to law suits between the N.C.C. and the defunk company.

Several months of research and many visits of potential sites/buildings did not produce positive results. Finally, in 1978 the Ottawa Board of Education announced the possible closing of the Osgoode Elementary School near the University of Ottawa. Discussions between the two parties, the O.B.E. and ACFO, were underway when it was decided by the O.B.E. to establish the first public francophone elementary school in the Ottawa-Carleton Region known today as the Franco-Jeunesse School.

Shortly thereafter, the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board announced the closing of Guigues School. This school was meeting all the requirements for the establishment of a francophone centre besides being a symbol and an historical landmark for the Franco-Ontarians. Immediate actions were undertaken with the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board and then with the City of Ottawa for the use of the subject school as a multi-purpose francophone centre.

3.2 The Proposal

The Regional Council of ACFO is aware of the existence of the numerous cultural services in the region that are available to meet the needs of the francophone community. Nevertheless, it cannot avoid the conviction, based on the available evidence, including the experience gained in the annual Franco-Ontarian Festival, that members of the francophone community need to have a place where they can learn, develop and grow. This is true for the francophone population in general and also for Francophones who are now connected with different organizations, federations or associations.

To fill this gap, the Regional Coucil of ACFO, in common with various organizations and individuals, proposes the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre in the region. The purposes of such a centre would be:

1. to provide a focal point for the promotion of the arts and of Franco-Ontarian cultural generally. To this end, the centre would include a theatre where local francophone drama groups could put on plays, and an art gallery, operated on a non-profit basis, where francophone artists could display and sell their paintings.

2. to serve as a locale for courses and gatherings favoring knowledge and development of Franco-Ontarian arts and culture. For this purpose, certain rooms would serve as meeting places for organizations of the region and as workshop locations for courses in leadership, music, dancing and in the history of the Franco-Ontarians. Two museums could be included, one of an academic nature and the other historical in content, thus enabling Franco-Ontarians to deepen their knowledge of their own past, their evolution and their cultural heritage.

3. to offer recreation opportunities to a range of Franco-Ontarian organizations, and in so doing to assist these organizations in their operations and development. Office space and other appropriate facilities could be made available to interested organizations, such as La Corvée, Theatre Action, Direction-Jeunesse, the Association des ainés francophone d'Ottawa and the Regional Council of ACFO to name a few.

It is proposed that the centre be managed by a management-committee made up of volunteers of the region, who would oversee the financial affairs of the centre, attend to public relations requirements and give direction generally to the business side of the centre. A cultural director would be appointed, and he would work with a general committee on which would be represented all the organizations involved in the cultural and social activities at the centre. An administrator would be named as well, to deal with administrative matters, including finances, purchases and advertising.

3.3 The Proposed Uses

A survey, carried out by ACFO in December 1980, of all the francophone organizations and groups has allowed the Association to define, more specifically, those services and programs that would best meet the needs of the francophone community and to assess the physical ability of Guigues School to accommodate those services.

The identified uses are most varied, ranging from office spaces, public exhibition rooms, workshops, a day care, a theatre, to an eating/entertainment establishment. The total floor space required to house these uses amounts to approximately 3,077 square metres (33,000 sq. ft.) or 30% more than what can be accommodated by the Guigues School with its 2,418 square metres (26,000 sq. ft.) of floor area.

As shown on Table V, slightly less than one half (1,384 square metres) of the total floor space demand is office space to accommodate organizations/groups; over one-fifth (675 square metres) is devoted to artistic and cultural activities; approximately one-fifth (558 square metres) is devoted to entertainment; and more than one-sixth (462 square metres) is devoted to educational activities.

TABLE V

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING IN THE PROPOSED CENTRE

NAME OF ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE OF USE	REQUIRED SPACE in sq. metres (sq. ft.)
OFFICE USES	
- ACFO - Ottawa-Carleton Region	46.50 (500)
- Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations	13.95 (150)
- Carmen Paquette & Asociés - Free-lance	27.90 (300)
- Direction-Jeunesse	151.12 (1,625)
- Community Education-Algonquin College	93.00 (1,000)
- Entraide budgétaire (a non-profit consulting service for family budgeting)	55.80 (600)
- Fédération des étudiants aux secondaires franco-ontariens (Federation of students attending Franco-Ontarian secondary schools)	55.80 (600)
- Fédération des Jeunes canadiens-français (Federation of Young French-Canadians)	158.10 (1,700)
- Regroupement culturel franco-ontarien de l'Est (Franco-Ontarian cultural regrouping of Eastern Ontario)	27.90 (300
- Revue Liaison (Liaison Newspaper)	46.50 (500)
- ACFO Provinciale (ACFO Provincial Council)	353.40 (3,800)
- Union culturelle des franco-ontariens - UCFO (Franco-Ontarian cultural union)	27.90 (300)
- Theatre d'la Corvée (D'la Corvée drama group)	167.40 (1,800)
- Théatre-Action	167.40 (1.800)
SUB-TOTAL	1,383.67 (14,975)
ARTISTIC & CULTURAL USES	
- Projet d'un théatre francophone (a Francophone theatre project)	544.05 (5,850)
- Francophone art gallery	74.40 (800)
- Franco-Ontarian museum	46.50 (500)
SUB-TOTAL	673.95 (7,150)
EDUCATIONAL USES	
- Programme-Retour au Travail; Collège Algonquin (Back-to-work Program; Algonquin College)	158.10 (1,700)
- Day Care (Francophone)	66.96 (720)
- Workshops and meeting rooms	237.06 (2,549)
SUB-TOTAL	462.12 (4,969)
ENTERTAINMENT USES	
- BSLM (a private enterprise) - Pub	558.00 (6,000)
TOTAL FLOOR SPACE	3,077.74 (33,094)

It should be noted, however, that a re-assessment of the proposed uses is currently being done favouring a greater number of culture-oriented uses to the disbenefit of the office uses. This process evolves from a culmination of the project and from a growing interest on the part of Franco-Ontarian cultural organizations wishing to regroup themselves under a common roof and to provide the region with a cultural centre which will be in keeping with the needs of the francophone community.

3.3.1 Office Uses

As noted earlier (see section 2.2) there are many well structured francophone organizations in the Ottawa-Carleton that are working towards a common goal. However, many of these organizations do not have adequate and affordable office spaces as their quarters. A number of them rent office spaces from the private or public sector at market value in order to ensure a certain permanency and to provide the best service possible to their community. In those cases, they also maintain their own secretarial service which entails, over and above the rental cost, significant operating costs. Other less fortunate organizations make best of parish halls, schools, and community centres on a use-sharing basis in order to meet their needs. This arrangement is harmful to their functioning, as they can not convey a sense of permanency and autonomy, all the more so as they can not establish or maintain an adequate secretarial service.

Moreover, the dispersion of the various organizations and the duplication of secretarial services, where existing, does considerable hardships to their identification and to the level of communication between themselves. A facility that would allow them to regroup and, possibly, to establish a central secretarial service would alleviate these deficiencies and increase the efficiency of those organizations that would be located in such a facility.

A rental cost based on capital commitments and on the operation and maintenance costs of the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre is envisaged. The resulting cost estimated at $43.00 a square metre ($4.00 a sq. ft.) would thus be lower than rental cost at market value and would constitute an attractive and affordable alternative to the present rental cost for most of the organizations, and contribute to the financial viability of the centre.

3.3.2. Artistic and Cultural Uses

The proposed artistic and cultural uses comprise of an art gallery, a Franco-Ontarian museum, and a theatre.

The Art Gallery

The popularity and success of the art displays at the Franco-Ontarian Festival over the past years clearly demonstrated the vested interest of the artists and the public at this form of cultural expression. Consequently, it was concluded that an art gallery at the proposed francophone centre would be a viable project that would be appreciated by the public at large.

The gallery could operate either independently from the centre while still located within the Guigues School with its own director and budget, or it could be directly dependent to the centre under the management of the Board of Directors and the supervision of the manager.

It is suggested that 74.40 square metres (800 sq. ft.) of display, office and storage area is required, where the display area can be a multi-use room such as a meeting room when no special exhibitions/events are being held.
The main sources of funding for a non-profit art gallery are from the Ontario Arts Council (who has granted subsidies to seven francophone art galleries in Ontario), Wintario (for the purchase of equipment and art objects), the Ontario Art Gallery, and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Recreation ('core funding').

An art gallery located within the proposed francophone centre could easily meet all the criterias necessary in order to obtain the necessary subsidies/grants, namely being a non-profitable facility registered with the Province and have its own Charter; have a Board of Directors, a budget and a programme; and be located within an accessible public building.

Based on the Toronto based art gallery known as 'La Chasse-Galerie, a typical annual operating budget would be approximately $30,000.00. This example consisted of four group exhibitions, seven single artist exhibitions and two special events or festivities.

The Franco-Ontarian Museum

There is an overwhelming concensus amongst specialists in the Franco-Ontarian heritage that a museum devoted to this heritage is needed. MM. Pierre Savard, Director of the French-Canadian Civilization Research Centre at the University of Ottawa, André Sarrazin, Secretary-General of the Assembly of Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centres, and Father Germain Lemieux, Founder of the Franco-Ontarian Folk Centre at the University of Sudbury and known as one of the outstanding experts in the Franco-Ontarian heritage all confirmed the need for a Franco-Ontarian museum in Eastern Ontario. It was also indicated that numerous artifacts have already been gathered and stored and that many Franco-Ontarians have indicated their willingness in donating artifacts ranging from antiques to a dismantled post-office that was located in the Larose Forest.

Moreover, Guigues School itself is one of the most significant heritage building for all Franco-Ontarians. It is the most pertinent landmark which relates the Franco-Ontarians' struggle to obtain French language schools in the Province of Ontario. What is more appropriate than establishing in Guigues School a museum that would relate this crucial period in the history of the Franco-Ontarians.

The necessary funding can be obtained from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Recreation of Ontario, the National Museums of Canada, and from private enterprises through donations.

The Theatre

The search for the establishment of a francophone theatre is the initial action taken by any francophone organization in Ottawa-Carleton that has since evolved to the stage of a proposal for

the establishment of a multi-purpose francophone centre, which proposal is being discussed in this report. As noted under Section 3.1, 'Chronology of Events', attempts were made to make use of the then newly renovated ByWard Market Building (1975), and then, the vacated Synagogue on King Edward Avenue at Murray Street (1977) in particular, and have failed. The need for such a facility has yet to be met.

This need lies on the fact that the Ottawa-Carleton Region constitutes the largest concentration of Francophones in Ontario, followed by Sudbury and Toronto. Yet, it does not have its own theatre, whereas Sudbury (Théâtre du Nouvel Ontario) and Toronto (Théâtre du Petit Bonheur) each have their own successful francophone theatre.

Moreover, a recent in-house survey carried out by francophone drama companies performing in the Ottawa-Carleton Region reveals that 5,000 Francophones attend theatres regularly. These persons are from Vanier, Lowertown, Sandy Hill and a percentage from Hull and consist of friends, professional theatre personnel, students from universities and colleges, students from five high schools and art-related people. For example, the 'Théâtre d'la Corvée' states that, last Fall, the seventeen (17) performances of the play 'Strip' attracted an average of 931 spectators over a possibility of 1,122 or 83% of its capacity.

Another factor that demonstrates the need for a francophone theatre in Ottawa is that the concentration of Franco-Ontarian theatre companies is in Eastern Ontario. They consist of the 'Théâtre de la Vieille 17', the 'Théâtre d'la Corvée', the 'Belles-Soeurs du Théâtre de la Basse-Ville', the 'Théâtre des Lutins' not to mention the amateur and community theatre groups from the region that would like to perform in Ottawa. They have repeatedly stated over the past recent years the urgent need for them to perform within their own environment for a francophone community.

To that effect, a project for the establishment of a francophone teatre in Ottawa was elaborated last year by 'Theatre-Action', a theatrical resource group working at the local and provincial levels. The intention is to facilitate the production of francophone spectacles, with emphasis on Franco-Ontarian performances, in the area of theatrical plays, dance, musique and cinema. The proposed theatre would not house a permanent drama company but instead, it would be more of a cabaret with a basic management structure which would resume itself to an artistic director, a technical director and an administration director. It is proposed to hire the remaining staff on a contract basis depending upon the need of each individual spectacles.

The goals are to accommodate Franco-Ontarian productions that still have no proper facilities to perform in Ottawa; to ensure to the Francophone community accessibility to such spectacles and allow it to express its cultural heritage; and, to offer to this community the opportunity to produce plays and present them. The 'Théâtre de l'Ile' (Hull) and the 'Théâtre du Nouvel Ontario' (Sudbury) are cited as examples of such community-oriented theatres.

The required space to accommodate adequately a theatre that would meet this demand amounts to 544.05 square metres (5,850 sq. ft.) of floor area consisting of a two-storey high auditorium facility. Related to Guigues School, this idealistic proposal would require substantial and costly alterations and would make use of approximately 25% of the total floor area of the subject

building. Though a similar proposal was realized in Sudbury and, notwithstanding the fact that no technical feasibility studies were done for the Guigues School, it would lessen the opportunity to maximize the use of the said School as a true multi-purpose francophone centre as seen by the ACFO.

A more moderate and realistic proposal would be to alter the basement of Guigues School such as to accommodate a stage and the required storage rooms, and combine it with the proposed pub. A small theatre of 150 to 200 seats located on one of the upper floors of Guigues School would be a valid alternative also. The use of the De La Salle Secondary School auditorium should be investigated as a semi-permanent stage for the production of the more major spectacles as a interim facility. If successful, an expansion of the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre could be envisaged by adding a proper auditorium for the performing arts.

The sources of funding towards the establishment of a theatre are varied. Operating funds are available with the Secretary of State which gave subsidies in the order of $45,000.00 to each of the 'Théâtre du Nouvel Ontario' in Sudbury and the 'Théâtre du Petit Bonheur' in Toronto; the Ontario Arts Council and, the City of Ottawa where $100,000.00 are available for community projects in Ottawa-Carleton. As for the actual implementation and equipment, funds can be obtained from Canada's Arts Council, Wintario and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Recreation. It is to be noted that the criterias for the latter are: that the project should be multi-disciplinary; should involve the renovation of a building; and should be implemented within a former school building, which criterias are all met by the Guigues School proposal.

The theatre proposal also describes a typical annual program consisting of eight (8) theatrical plays (two local professional productions, three community productions and three non-local professional productions); three musical production and regular film projections. The typical budget forecasted for the first year of operation would amount to $176,000.00.

Hence, the three artistic and cultural uses as described above would amount to approximately 675 square metres of floor area (7,150 sq. ft.) or 27% of the total gross floor area of Guigues School if all accommodated. The need for three of the four uses, the art gallery, the Franco-Ontarian museum and the theatre are well demonstrated and their accommodation within the proposed centre highly appropriate. The proposed theatre would require, however, some significant changes to its physical format and scale in order to be more compatible with the proposed centre.

3.3.3 Educational Uses

The proposed educational uses consist of a community-based employment consulting and referral assistance program sponsored by Algonquin College, a day care and, workshops and meeting rooms. The required floor spaces amount to 462.12 square metres (4,969 sq. ft.).

'Retour au Travail" Program

The program 'Retour au Travail', is a training, counselling and referral employment program assisting former female workers in their return to the job market. Supervised by the Algonquin College, it has been instrumental to numerous unemployed residents of Eastern Ottawa and of Vanier in search of a job.

Presently located in an office building on Montreal Road in Vanier, it requires more functional space of the educational type and easily accessible to the public. The proposed francophone centre at Guigues School would respond to these needs. A rental cost of $43.00 per square metres ($4.00 per sq. ft.) was suggested by ACFO.

The Day Care

The proposal for a day care in the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre stems primarily from an apparent lack of totally francophone day cares in the Ottawa-Carleton Region. It is therefore seen by ACFO that a market exist that would support such a facility. The 'Garderie Ballon Rouge', located in the west end of Ottawa, is the only francophone day care in the region.

Presently, there are four (4) day cares in operation in the vicinity of the Guigues School: the 'Garderie de la Basse-Ville', a bilingual and municipal day care located on York Street east of King Edward Avenue; Le Patro's 'La Halte', a francophone municipal day care for children 2 years of age or less; the 'York Street School Age Programme', a bilingual day care for kids 5 to 10 years of age; and the 'Andrew Fleck Child Centre', a private anglophone day care.

The management of this non-profit day care facility could either be carried out under the administrative body of the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre or by its own board of management. The day care could be located on the first floor of Guigues School with minimal renovation and an outdoor space can easily be provided.

Various sources of funding exist for the establishment and operation of day care centre, namely, the Ontario Department of Community and Social Services, the City of Ottawa and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton.

A typical budget based on the Rockland Day Care as an example, is estimated at approximately $56,500.00. This excludes the capital investment of $25,000.00 that would not be applicable in the present case. Also, ACFO indicates that resource staff are on hand for the establishment of such a facility.

However, a market analysis has yet to prove the need for the proposed day care. Also, the proposed location and facilities requires Provincial approval and the operating budget requires Regional Council's approval before being implemented.

Workshops and Meeting Rooms

The intent here is, through the provision of workshops and meeting rooms, to ensure that the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre fulfills its role as a cultural animation centre. Priority would be given to visual art programmes given an obvious shortage of visual art workshops available to the francophone community as reported by the ACFO.

As seen earlier, the Ottawa School of Art does not meet adequately the needs of the Francophones despite a bilingual programme and staff, and recent efforts to improve the delivery of their services to the Francophones. The low number of francophone registration recorded at the Ottawa School of Art is not an indication of a lack of interest on the part of the

Francophone in visual arts. There is a large number of Francophones registered to elementary visual art workshops given at the various community centres and schools such as in Sandy Hill and Lowertown. Therefore, a series of advanced or specialized visual art workshops could interest a large number of them as a follow-up to the elementary workshops.

Their identification to a geographically-known francophone facility where visual art is taught is seen essential by ACFO. Such a facility should be managed by a francophone board of directors which would identify the community's needs and only such a board can establish a visual art workshop programme that would adequately meet the needs, interests and aspirations of the francophone community.

Funds are available for a francophone programme in visual arts. Upon recognition of the proposed francophone centre, the City of Ottawa could take the appropriate actions for the purchase of services as currently being done for the Ottawa School of Art at an annual rate of $72,000.00. City Clerk also has funds known as 'Seed Money' for the implementation of new community-oriented projects. Finally, the Ontario Arts Council could be interested also in subsidizing workshops on visual arts.

3.3.4 Entertainment Uses

In the area of entertainment, it is proposed to establish a pub at the multi-purpose francophone centre. This proposed café, to be managed by a private enterprise, BSLM Inc., is to provide a full eating and bar service. A wide range of spectacles promoting the Ontarian culture with priority given to Franco-Ontarian singers, musicians, soliloquists, films and theatre are to be presented on a small stage.

An area of 558 square metres (6,000 sq. ft.) is required to accommodate a dining area, a bar, a kitchen and its food-storage facilities, a stage and its dressing rooms and backstage, and public washroom facilities.

The physical and technical implementation of this pub/café in the basement of Guigues School would require substantial renovations to the existing premises. Services such as a heating and air conditioning systems as per LLBO specifications; an electrical system that would service the bar, the kitchen and the lighting and amplifying systems of the stage; plumbing services that would handle the kitchen facilities, ladies and men's public and employees' washroom facilities, and the bar facilities; a direct loading and unloading facility for the delivery of merchandise to the pub; appropriate accoustic insulation; and, if feasible, the accommodation of an ajoining terrace are amongst the most significant facilities to be provided.

If the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre is endorsed by the City of Ottawa, the provision of these facilities is to be negotiated between the Centre's management and BSLM Inc. These negotiations would depend on the nature of the agreement between the City of Ottawa and ACFO.

Undoubtedly, amongst all the proposed uses to be accommodated within the proposed centre, the pub would constitute the use that would generate the most return on investment for the Centre. Given the non-profitable nature of most of the proposed uses, or the non-profitable status of many of the users of the Centre and, given the extensive and costly alterations required to accommodate the pub in the basement of the Guigues School, the

economic viability of the pub, especially during the initial years of operation is, therefore, critical. A cost-sharing agreement between the City of Ottawa and ACFO that would minimize the capital investment for the establishment of the proposed francophone centre would not only allow the centre to become reality but would also ensure its establishment on a sound financial base.

This analysis of the proposed uses leads to three conclusive observations. Firstly, there are more uses proposed for the multi-purpose francophone centre than what the proposed centre can accommodate. This is a clear indication of the wide interest from the francophone community, and the various organizations that serves it, in the establishment of a francophone centre. It is also an indication that the full use of the proposed centre can easily be achieved.

Secondly, it can be observed that the proposed uses are varied in nature ranging from office uses, to educational uses, to entertainment uses. This variety of uses would largely contribute in the establishment of an effective multi-purpose centre devoted to the Franco-Ontarian culture with an emphasis on visual arts. This unique array of uses, accommodated in the Guigues School and inter-acting between themselves, would also contribute largely to the vivacity of the centre and, most of all, highlight the historical significance of the subject building.

Thirdly, the range of uses where the more lucrative uses (such as the pub) would allow and support the accommodation of non-lucrative uses (including some short-earning uses such as the proposed museum) would ensure the financial viability of the proposed centre.

3.4 The Building

In order to accommodate adequately the proposed uses outlined above, ACFO has defined four basic requirements that should be inherent to the needed building. Firstly, the building should be in a reasonable good condition. Secondly, it should have at least one hall large enough to accommodate 100 to 150 spectators, adjacent dressing rooms, a storage room and a kitchen. Thirdly, it should have three rooms of at least 46.5 square metres (500 sq. ft.) of floor area so as to accommodate the administrative services, a meeting room and a dance hall. Finally, the building should have several rooms of varied sizes to accommodate offices, exhibition halls, classes and other similar uses/services.

Notwithstanding the necessary upgrading of the water services, and the provision of an elevator to facilitate the access to the centre by disabled persons, the Guigues School does meet all of the requirements without necessitating extensive alterations.

More important than the ability of the subject building to accommodate the proposed centre, Guigues School is a highly significant heritage building. Few buildings exist in the City of Ottawa which are historically so meaningful both in a regional and provincial context. Guigues School was the "bastion of the francophonie, symbol of the Franco-Ontarian struggles of the past, revolving around regulation 17"[3]. This Regulation, issued by the Provincial Department of Education in June 1912, effectively prohibited the use of the French language as a means of instruction and communication in the classrooms of Ontario.

Guigues School became the symbol of the fight for minority rights in Ontario. On January 5, 1916, nineteen francophone Ottawa mothers, battled the police barricade on the steps of the school and regained possession of the school to allow classes to continue.

For the francophones of Ontario, these women became a symbol of the fight against assimilation and the right to minority language education in this province. Their courage prompted the continuation of the fight until the near total disavowal of this rule in 1927, and its repeal in 1944.

It is for that reason that, on June 18, 1980, the City has designated the subject building as a heritage building. Also, a resolution was passed by Council on October 1st, 1980 requesting from the Province a commemorative plaque underlining this historical event.

A brief history taken from "Language and Religion - A History of English-French Conflict in Ontario," written by Robert Choquette in 1975 is outlined in Annexe I.

The ACFO's proposal can not be a more appropriate use of Guigues School. It would ensure its preservation and rejuvenation given the appropriateness of the building's physical characteristics to accommodate the proposed uses and the pertinency of those uses with the historical background of the building.

Public interest in the said building, based on its historical significance, is such that continuous efforts can be expected from the public to find an appropriate use of the building that would benefit to all Francophones and the public at large in the event that the ACFO proposal does not materialize. A use which would serve mainly private interests and be restricted to a very few number of people would not receive public support.

3.5 The Location and Site

The ACFO has defined also a series of location and site criterias seen essential for the proper establishment of the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre.

The locational criterias are as follows: 1) A Franco-Ontarian cultural centre should be located in a francophone neighbourhood. 2) The centre should be easily accessible by automobiles and by the public transit network. 3) It should be located also in close proximity to some services such as printing, distributing and retail establishments. 4) In order to appeal to associations as tenants, the proposed centre should be located in proximity to National and Provincial associations' headquarters. 5) If the centre is to accommodate a competitive mixed pub-eating-cinema-cabaret use, it should be located in close proximity to similar uses. 6) Also, it would be preferable that such a centre be located within a building that is meaningful to and easily identified by Franco-Ontarians. 7) Finally, it would also be preferable if the centre be located either in proximity to the University of Ottawa or the Algonquin College.

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3. Working paper - "L'école Guigues: centre culturel franco-ontarien," (Guigues School: a Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centre), Regional Council of ACFO; and "Onze centres culturels franco-ontariens - Elements de trajectoire et d'horizon" (Eleven Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centres: Direction of Movement and Breadth of Development), report presented to the Assembly of Cultural Centres by P. Pelletier, September, 1979.

With regards to site requirements, the ACFO has defined the following three criterias: 1) the Centre should be able to provide staff parking and be in proximity to adequate public parking facilities; 2)it should provide for the accommodation of a playground if a day care is established; and 3) it should have some provision for some landscaping.

In reviewing the location and site characteristics of the Guigues School as the preferred location and site for the proposed multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian centre, the overall conclusion is that it meets, more than adequately, most of the requirements stated above. 1) Guigues School is located in the most predominant francophone community of the City. 2) Located on the north side of Murray Street,south of St. Patrick Street, it would be readily accessible, both by automobile and the public transit system, by residents of all the Ottawa-Carleton and Hull Region since Murray Street is scheduled to be paired in a one-way arterial couplet with St. Patrick Street this fall and would accommodate both the Outaouais and OC Transpo public transit services. 3) Situated half a block east of Dalhousie Street and the ByWard Market and half a kilometer (1/4 of a mile) north of the Rideau Street and Rideau Centre Project, the proposed centre would be in walking distance to a full range of retail, service commercial and entertainment establishments. 4) Within the same general area, several National and Provincial francophone associations have located their headquarters such as the Provincial Council of ACFO, the Federation of Francophone Outside Quebec, the Federation of Franco-Ontarian Teachers, and others. 5) Also, given the historical significance of the Guigues School as the landmark of the struggle of the Franco-Ontarians for their rights to an education in their mother tongue in Ontario, one can not find a more meaningful building that all Francophones in Ontario can easily relate to. 6) Finally, Guigues School is located approximately one kilometer (half a mile) from the University of Ottawa, one of the two major Franco-Ontarian universities in Ontario, where academic and technical resources and a cultural-related public can be found.

The appropriateness of the site to accommodate staff parking, its proximity to adequate public parking facilities, and its potential for the provision of adequate open space, including a playground area for the proposed day care, are also positive features that favour Guigues School as the preferred location for the proposed multi-purpose francophone centre.

3.6 Capital Costs

The establishment of the proposed centre would require substantial amounts of money, especially at the initial stage of implementation. The major expenses would be for the acquisition or lease of the building, its renovation, the interior and exterior re-furbishing and the purchase of furniture and equipment.

At the request of the Planning Branch, the Property Branch of the Department of Physical Environment, City of Ottawa, has briefly assessed the market value of the Guigues School property under the existing public land use designation (P). Also, the renovation costs based on the work proposed by ACFO and estimated (1979) by Mr. Padolsky were revised with Mr. Padolsky to reflect current costs. The preliminary estimate of the cost to acquire and renovate the building for ACFO use amounts to $600,000.00.

It is to be noted that the acquisition cost portion of the total cost figure does not result from a complete and detail inspection and appraisal of the premises but is intended to put a possible City budget into perspective. Also, the renovation cost portion of the same amount does take into consideration such costs as air

conditioning, furnishings, design fees, development charges and site improvements which were not part of Mr. Padolsky's initial appraisal.

Hence, the $600,000.00 figure is a conservative cost estimate. It, nevertheless, gives an acceptable appreciation of the capital costs required for the establishment of the proposed multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian centre.

It is clear that these initial purchase and renovation costs are considerable, especially if they were to be assumed by a non-profit organization such as the Regional Council of ACFO. To meet these costs, ACFO is relying on the financial support of official organizations and, in particular, the City of Ottawa, the Ontario Arts Council, the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and the Secretary of State. The foreseen distribution of the financial aid is as follows:

1.	Purchase of property and renovation costs (including air conditioning, furnishing, design fees, development charges, site improvements, etc.):	$600,000.00	City of Ottawa with some possible Provincial and/or Federal grants.
2.	Purchase of equipment	Total cost unknown	ACFO with Federal and Provincial grants, subscriptions and donations.

In reviewing these costs, many cost-sharing options are opened to the principal organizations involved, being the ACFO, the Ottawa Separate School Board and the City of Ottawa. All options are based on the following four basic principles: 1) that the ACFO accepts the responsibility that the proposed centre is to be financially self-sufficient after the third year of operation of the centre but requires some financial assistance to initiate the project; 2) that the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board, present owner of the subject building, should take an active role in establishing and promoting the proposed multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre given the nature of the history of Guigues School which links the Board with the subject building; 3) that the City of Ottawa should be of assistance financially, and in promoting the project as a valuable mean of preserving a desingated heritage building, as a facility that would meet the needs of a large segment of its population, and as an meaningful tourist attraction in the vicinity of the ByWard Market area; and 4) that all three parties, ACFO, OCSSB and the City of Ottawa solicit from all level of governments and from the community at large the greatest assistance, financially and/or otherwise, as is possible.

On the basis of the above-stated principles, the following cost-sharing options are plausible:

Option A: The City of Ottawa acquires and renovates Guigues School and makes it available to ACFO; or

Option B: The City of Ottawa leases Guigues School from the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board, renovates the building and makes it available to ACFO.

Option C: ACFO leases Guigues School from the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board and that the City of Ottawa contributes financially towards the renovations of the building.

Option D: ACFO purchases Guigues School from the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board and that the City of Ottawa contributes financially towards the renovations of the building.

Option E: The City of Ottawa acquires Guigues School from the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board, sells it to ACFO, and ACFO, renovates the building with some financial assistance from the City.

It is to be noted that several grant programs may be available to facilitate the establishment of public or non-profit cultural facilities. The most significant programs that would assist in alleviating the capital cost of the proposed centre are the Community Recreation Centres Act (CRCA) program which would cover 25% of the total acquisition and renovation costs up to a maximum of $75,000.00 and/or the new Wintario program, effective in 1982, whereby 50% of the total capital cost may be granted. These grants, if given, may only apply, however, to the non-profitable cultural uses of the proposed multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian centre such as the art gallery, the theatre, the museum and the workshops and meeting rooms. The proposed day care, office and pub uses would not be accounted for under these programs.

Other possible sources of public funding that may further reduce the capital cost of the project are the Ontario Heritage Grant program, and both the provincial and federal Secretaries of State.

3.7 Operating Costs

The cost of operation of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre has not been determined yet. These costs would obviously include lighting, heating, air conditioning, maintenance, insurance, municipal taxes and other expenses that are inevitably incurred in the management of any building. In addition, wages for support staff and costs of office supplies, telephone and other items such as for the promotion of the centre and its programs and activities are also to be accounted for for the effective operation of the centre. Finally, resource staff such as a cultural animator, an administrator and resource persons would be required for the management of the centre.

These operating costs may be covered in part or totally by way of annual subsidies from the Ontario Arts Council, the City of Ottawa, the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, the provincial organization of ACFO, from an annual subscription campaign and/or from registration fees, to name a few.

3.8 Possible Sources of Revenue

The ACFO would rely on a number of direct and indirect sources of revenue to defray both the capital and operating costs. The direct revenues would come mainly from the rental of space to francophone organizations. The cost per square metres for office space suggested to them by ACFO was $43.00 per square metre ($4.00/sq. ft.). Assuming that the same rental cost is charged to the day care and to the 'Retour au Travail' Program (Algonquin College) and that an average commercial rate of $107.52 per square metre ($10.00/sq. ft.) is charged for the pub, possible direct revenues would come from the following:

- office space: 1,383.67 sq. metres (14,975 sq. ft.) @ $43.00/sq.m. ($4.00/sq. ft.) = $59,900.00/year
  or $4,992.00/month

- Back-to-Work Program: 158.10 sq. metres (1,700 sq. ft.) @ $43.00/sq. m. ($4.00/sq. ft.) = $6,800.00/year or $566.66/month

- day care: 66.96 sq. metres (720 sq. ft.) @ $43.00/sq. m. ($4.00/sq. ft.) = $2,880.00/year or $240.00/month

- pub/cabaret: 558.00 sq. metres (6,000 sq. ft.) @ $107.52/sq. m ($10.00/sq. ft.) = $60,000.00/year or $5,000.00/month

Total estimated revenues: $129,580.00/year or $ 10,798.00/month

N.B. Assuming that the square footage is allotted to these uses.

These direct revenues, totaling $129,580.00 annually (or $10,798.00 monthly), do not include other possible revenues such as the rental of spaces to the museum and art gallery, the rental of meeting rooms and workshops, revenue on the sales of art objects at exhibitions, and possibly, a percentage of the pubs profits. These direct revenues would certainly lessen the need for grants and would strengthen the financial viability of the centre.

The indirect revenues may be in the form of payments by the City of Ottawa for the possible purchase of services, similar to the payments it makes annually to the Ottawa School of Art ($72,000.00). Annual grants from the Ontario Arts Council and possibly, from the Secretary of State would increase the chances of the centre to balance its budget, especially during the first three years of operation. After three years, ACFO expects the centre to become self-sufficient.

Also, the Regional Council of ACFO has faith that the historic importance of the building, the attractive programs of the centre and the sustained support of Francophones would have the combined effect of facilitating the procurement of the necessary human and financial resources to establish the centre on a sound basis and enable it to function effectively.

3.9 Review of Expenses and Revenues

On the basis of the above analysis of estimated capital costs and revenues, the multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre as proposed by ACFO seems to be an economically viable project over the long run. It is anticipated that sufficient revenus will be generated by the variety of uses to cover both the capital and operating costs. However, there is still the need to carry out a more detailed economic analysis to substantiate the economic feasibility of the centre. What is sought by ACFO is some form of financial assistance at the initial stage to allow for the establishment of the proposed centre.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Conclusions

This study of the need of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre and of the feasibility of establishing it, as advocated by the Regional Council for Ottawa-Carleton Region of ACFO, makes it possible to set forth the main facts and to draw certain conclusions as follows:

a) There is a substantial francophone population in the Ottawa-Carleton region, and more particularly in the City of Ottawa. This population is located primarily east of the Rideau Canal.

b) The francophone population forms an active, lively and organized community;

c) This community is well served in the area of socio-cultural and recreational programmes and facilities by a multitude of organizations and by the public sector, in particular, the municipalities and the school boards.

d) There are gaps, however, in the fields of artistic and cultural programs and facilities available to Franco-Ontarians, and the ability of those that do exist to adequately meet the needs of the Franco-Ontarians.

e) The proposal of the Regional Council of ACFO for the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre is realistic from the standpoint of both finance and function, and could meet the existing cultural and artistic needs of Franco-Ontarians of the region.

f) The artistic and cultural nature of the project is such that it would not be in competition with existing programs and facilities such as Le Patro which are primarily socio-cultural and recreational in nature and community oriented, nor programs carried out at other City Community Centres, and would complement the role of the Ottawa School of Arts, concerned with arts and culture in general:

g) Apart from its geographic location and suitability of the site, the links with the past of Guigues School, its importance as a heritage treasure for Franco-Ontarians, and the compatibility of the proposed uses from a standpoint of land use and heritage preservation, are all significant reasons why it would be a logical place for the establishment of a cultural centre.

h) The establishment of the centre would require substantial expenditures at the beginning (purchase or lease of the bulding; renovations; equipment) and, as a non-profit organization, the Regional Council of ACFO could not provide, alone, the necessary funds.

4.2 Recommendations

1. That the City of Ottawa accepts, in principle, to support the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centre.

2. That the Guigues School, on Murray Street, be chosen as the site for such centre.

3. That the City of Ottawa request the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board to also actively support the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian Cultural Centre at Guigues School, and further, that the Board collaborate with the City an the Canadian Association of Franco-Ontarians (A.C.F.O.) in the establishment of such centre.

4) That the City of Ottawa, working in close collaboration with the Regional Council of A.C.F.O. and the Ottawa Separate School Board, assume a leadership role in this endeavor, namely in soliciting the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, City of Vanier, Rockcliffe Park, City of Gloucester and the City of Nepean to participate and share financially in this project;

5) That an independent economic analysis be undertaken by, and at the cost of ACFO, demonstrating the economic feasibility of the Centre at Guigues School based on one of the following options:

Option A: That the City of Ottawa acquires and renovates Guigues School by way of a grant and/or loan to ACFO in order to allow for the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre, and a rent be charged to ACFO based on the occupied floor area at the time, for the recovery of any monies incurred by the City through the loan; or

Option B: That the City of Ottawa leases Guigues School from the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board and renovates the building by way of a grant and/or loan to ACFO in order to allow for the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre, and a rent be charged to ACFO based on the occupied floor area at the time, for the recovery of any monies incurred by the City through the loan; or

Option C: That the City of Ottawa makes a grant and/or loan to ACFO towards the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre for the renovation costs only, and that ACFO enters into a lease agreement with the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board, and that ACFO be responsible for the renovation costs of Guigues School; or

Option D: That the City of Ottawa makes a grant and/or a loan to ACFO towards the establishment of a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre, and that ACFO negotiates the purchase of Guigues School with the Ottawa Catholic Separate School Board, and that ACFO be responsible for the renovations costs of Guigues School; or

Option E: That the City of Ottawa acquires Guigues School for the purpose of establishing a multi-purpose Franco-Ontarian cultural centre, and sells the building to ACFO by way of a grant and/or loan to ACFO. ACFO be responsible for the renovation costs, and the City to assist by way of a grant and/or loan towards these costs.

The analysis may include other options, and should include capital costs, operating costs, revenues, and possible sources of funding for each possible option.

6) That A.C.F.O. assumes full responsibility for the management of the centre and for the costs of operations and maintenance, capital cost and refunding of loans.

7) That the City of Ottawa investigate the possibility of purchasing services provided by the Centre on an annual basis for those services it offers which the City would otherwise be providing.

ANNEX I

REGULATION 17 - A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT

Between 1881 and 1911, Ontario's population increased from 1,926,922 to 2,523,274, a growth of 600,000. French-Canadians represented some 25 per cent of these, amounting to 202,442.

The quality of teaching in Ontario's bilingual schools was poor in the eys of all concerned parties, particularly with the poor quality of English taught in them. Since 1885, the teaching of English was compulsorary in Ontario schools, and since 1890 no other language was allowed unless the pupils did not understand English. On this last stipulation, the bilingual schools of the province rested their case for the teaching of the French language.

On March 22, 1911, George Howard Ferguson, an ultra-Protestant Conservative, rose in the Ontario Legislature and moved that English be the only language of instruction in Ontario's classrooms. This resolution was modified somewhat as the federal Conservatives were arranging an alliance with Quebec nationalists. However, all members of the Assembly supported the motion as it simply restated the law of 1890.

In the provincial election of December, 1911, Premier James Pliny Whitney's Conservatives were re-elected with 83 seats to 22 Liberal and 1 Independent. Whitney, who had declared in March, 1911 that bilingual schools did not exist in Ontario, rose in the Legislature on April 13, 1912 and declared the following as Ontario's policy on the language of education;

> "Instruction in English shall commence at once upon a child entering school, the use of French as the language of instruction and of communication to vary according to local conditions upon the report of the supervising inspector, but in no case to continue beyond the end of the first form."

At that time, first form would have been the equivalent to the end of Grade Three in today's provincial elementery schools.

Following this, the notorious Regulation 17 was issued in June, 1912 by the Department of Education. This circular pointed out that there were only Public and Separate Schools in Ontario. French for the purposes of instruction was limited to Form 1 except for the years 1912-1913, and, for francophone students unable to understand English, a special course in English was established. French as the language of instruction was allowed during 1912-1913 only to those pupils whose parents demanded it, and never for more than one hour per day.

Teachers who did not possess a sufficient knowledge of English sufficient to teach the public school course were to be discharged as of June, 1912. If any teachers were hired who did not meet this requirement, the provincial government would immediately cease grants to that institution which defied the regulation by hiring such a teacher.

Furthermore, bilingual schools were divided into three divisions, each with a supervising inspector whose main responsibility was to oversee and ensure the enforcement of English instruction in all these schools. A bilingual inspector was also installed to supervise the use of French, but he was responsible and subservient to the supervising inspector, who was declared to have sole control. It was this measure which deeply insulted the francophone population of Ontario.

Queen's Park had served notice that all students must speak English in the classroom after 1913.

The francophone trustees of the Ottawa Separate School Board protested strongly to the Whitney Government on September 11, 1912. The Government answered them with Regulation 18, which made both trustees and teachers responsible for any failures to carry out the express orders of Regulation 17. The Minister of Education was empowered to cancel the teaching certificate of any teacher refusing to comply with Regulation 17 and recalcitrant boards were threatened with the non-renewal of grants, and the automatic transfer of their ratepayers to the Public School rolls.

On December 27, 1912 a party of two francophones and two and two anglophone members of the Ottawa Separate School Board led a delegation representing all the francophone school districts of the province arrived at Queen's Park to personally demand of Premier Whitney to abolish Regulation 17. Whitney refused and went further by refusing to establish a third or "racial" system of schools.

In May, 1913 the Association canadienne-francaise d'education de l'Ontario advised all separate school trustees not to allow Protestant inspectors into their schools and never to accept Regulation 17.

In August, 1913 the Department of Education modified Regulation 17. The divisional supervising inspector was abolished and replaced by two inspectors per division who reported directly to the Minister of Education. Also included was the allowance of the use of the French language in the teaching of French reading, grammar and composition, and the chief inspector was empowered to increase the daily one hour maximum of such teaching. This became law on September 4, 1913.

The new rule only allowed French in schools where the language had formerly or continued to be a subject of instruction, and only if the parents demanded it and if the chief inspector of schools at Toronto saw fit to allow an exception to the standing rule of one hour per day as a maximum.

At the beginning of the 1913-1914 school year, the Ottawa Separate School Board saw fit to inform Whitney that it would not obey Regulation 17. The Province cancelled all grants to the Ottawa Board a month later in October, 1913. At that time some 400 students were ordered out of Garneau School at Ottawa after being questioned by the anglophone inspector.

Protests were raised against the disenfranchisement of parents, school boards and churchmen. Anglophone inspectors were decried as incapable of justly evaluating French schools and of determining text books.

The Province of Quebec organized "Le sou de la pensée française" which enabled Quebec school children to contribute money to a fund for the relief of the Franco-Ontarians. This organization worked through the Montreal St-Jean-Baptiste Society, which gave $12,600 to the A.C.F.E.O. between 1910-1913. Other monies from Quebec sources were also made available at this time until A.C.F.E.O. received $15,400, some of which was used to start Le Droit on March 27, 1913 to defend the rights of Franco-Ontarians.

After provincial grants were halted to the Ottawa Separate School Board in October, 1913 the anglophone trustees, led by Trustee R. Mackell, established the Ottawa Separate School Committee on March 2, 1914, in order to separate the English schools from the bilingual schools. They met with the Ottawa Separate School Board on March 11,

1914. The Board upheld its resolutions of opposition to Regulation 17, whereupon the Separate School Committee met the following day and resolved to petition the Ontario Government for separation and the abolition of all French teaching in Ontario schools. The Committee insisted on the right to determine their children's education, which was precisely the same argument being waged by the Franco-Ontarians on the provincial political stage.

In April, 1914 the Ottawa Separate School Board asked the City of Ottawa for a by-law permitting them to issue debentures to raise money for independent schools, separate from the control of Queen's Park. Mackell and seven other Trustees and ratepayers obtained an injunction from the Supreme Court of Ontario forbidding the Ottawa Board from obtaining such a by-law, and ordering the Board to discharge all teachers who did not meet provincial standards of qualification and did not fully comply with provincial regulations. The Court also forbade the Board to make any further payment of salaries to such persons.

Premier Whitney announced an provincial election for June,1914. His Conservative Party solemnly pledged to enforce Regulation 17, which they had been unable to do up to that time. The party was aided greatly by the Loyal Orange Lodge, which declared that Ontario Protestantism was on trial. The Whitney Government was re-elected with 83 seats compared to the Liberals' 26 seats. However, they lost in all ridings containing sizable Franco-Ontarian populations and were left with no such representation in the new government.

They day after the elction, the Ottawa Separate School Board closed all its schools. Some 8,000 pupils had no schools in September when the Ontario Supreme Court ordered the Board to reopen them and employ only qualified teachers.

The Ottawa Separate School Board contested the Mackell injunction and judgement was delivered on November 28, 1914 by Judge Lennox who found the Board quilty of using French as a language of communication and instruction, of employing unqualified teachers, of obstructing inspectors, and of illegally closing its schools. This decision was upheld by the Appellate Division of the Court on July 12, 1915.

On January 8, 1915 two English Protestants in the Quebec Assembly, Bullock and Finnie, proposed and received a unanimous resolution from that place which was forwarded to the Government of Ontario. It was as follows;

> "Resolved that this House, without derogating from the principles of provincial autonomy and without any intention of advising or interfering with any of the Provinces of Confederation in any matter whatsoever views with regret the divisions which seem to exist among the people of the Province of Ontario over the bilingual school question and believes that it is in the interests of the Dominion at large that all such questions should be considered on broad, generous and patriotic lines always remembering that one of the cardinal principles of British liberty throughout the Empire is regard for the rights and privileges of minorities."

On April 8, 1915, G.H.Ferguson, Minister of Education, obtained from the Legislature the right to replace the Ottawa Separate School Board with a three-man Commission of the Board continued to refuse obedience to Toronto. At that time, 190 bilingual schools were no longer eligible for grants because of their refusal to comply with

Regulation 17. The Government then paid overdue salaries directly to qualified English Separate School teachers, thereby passing the Board. On July 20, 1915 the new commission or la p'tite commission was established, its members being Dennis Murphy, president; D'Arcy McGee, vice-president, and Arthur Charbonneau.

However, by the beginning of the 1915-1916 school year, the Ontario Government, while managing to create financial problems for Ottawa Separate School Board French-Canadians, had not managed to enforce Regulation 17, nor had the new commission.

In Ottawa, on October 5, 1915, two schoolteachers, the sisters Beatrice and Diane Desloges, were forced to leave Guigues School on Murray Street because of the Mackell injunction. They thereupon opened classes in a neighbouring house, and other classes apparently were opened in two stores on Dalhousie Street and the small chapel which until recently existed on Murray Street. The two commission-appointed replacement teachers established themselves in the abandoned Guigues School, but with no pupils.

On November 18, 1915, Chief Justice Sir William Meredith of the Ontario Supreme Court declared Regulation 17 valid and said he could find no constitutional or natural grounds for the rights of the French language in Ontario. The Franco-Ontarians appealed to the Judicial Committee of the King's Privy Council in Great Britain.

On January 5, 1916, the disenfranchised but elected Ottawa Separate School Board, decided to resume control over Guigues School. Proceeding to the School, they were met by Commissioner Arthur Charbonneau and twelve policemen barring their entrance. At that moment, nineteen mothers and the two Desloges sisters, armed with hatpins, sticks and umbrellas, stormed the police to enter the school. Repeatedly knocked down, the women stood their ground and hit the police with their make-shift weapons, including the use of hatpins into the stomachs of the police and Arthur Charbonneau. The police ran off, and the women, known as the Guardians, took the School and mounted a day and night watch.

The janitor of the school decided to side with the Government at Toronto and refused the keys of the school to the Guardians. The mothers took him to the furnance room and locked him in, keeping him hostage for three days until he surrendered the keys. His wife, who lived across the street, brought him his meals through a window in the basement.

Guardians were also placed around other French schools in the City, but the main battleground was the Guigues School.

The nineteen women who formed the actual seige were Albertine Sarault, Euphrasie Dubé, Annette Trépanier, Marie-Antoinette Bérubé, Donalda Blais, Adèle Défayette, Alice Lefrenière, Honorine Brazeau, Valentine Bédard, Yvonne Grenon, Marie-Blance Desloges, Adelia Richard, Georgianna Lapierre, Adèle Baizana, Agnès Blanchette, Ernestine DeLasalle Alexina Fink, and Delisca Dionne. The two Desloges sisters, Beatrice and Diane, were also part of this contingent.

On January 10, 1916, G.H.Ferguson appeared in Ottawa, declaring he would use all possible means to enforce Regulation 17. The Ontario Supreme Court declared the P'tite Commission to be legal, whereupon the A.C.F.E.O. appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. On November 2, 1916 the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council recognized the validity of Regulation 17, but declared the P'tite Commission illegal and ordered the elected Ottawa Separate School Board reinstated.

On January 31, 1916 3,000 Ottawa Separate School children, led by their teachers, marched to Ottawa City Hall and petitioned the Mayor and Council to pay their teachers. This was followed by the resignation of all 122 bilingual school teachers in Ottawa which closed 17 schools and put 4,000 children out of class. On Febraury 7, 1916, another children's march occurred.

Five public meetings were held in Ottawa to challenge Regulation 17, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke at one of these demonstrations.

With the reinstatement of the Ottawa Separate School Board, pressure was somewhat alleviated from the Franco-Ontarians, and over the next four years, mounting criticism of the oppresive nature of the law was vented by prominent English Ontarians and English Canadians in general. As well, the Conservative Government of Ontario was defeated at the polls on October 20, 1919 by the United Farmers Party under the leadership of E.C.Drury.

Furthermore, a group of English Toronto intellectuals under the leadership of C.B.Sissons and G.M.Wrong, established the Unity League in 1923 aimed at the promotion of good will and better understanding between English and French Canadians. By 1925 it had 150 influential members and worked with A.C.F.E.O., which had now found a powerful ally in the heart of Anglo-Protestant Ontario.

In January, 1924, A Conservative Ottawa lawyer, Louis Côté, submitted to Premier Ferguson a draft of an amended Regulation 17. Côté proposed maintaining the compulsorary teaching of English, the dual inspectorate, and the vast powers of the Minister of Education, but he allowed French as a medium of instruction and communication beyond the first two years of schooling, and he underlined the importance of training good bilingual teachers.

In October, 1925, Premier Ferguson appointed q new commission of inquiry into Ontario bilingual schools. The commission was composed of Dr. F.W. Merchant, Louis Côté,and Judge J.H.Scott, a prominent Orangeman. The Legislature adopted the Committee's Report on Ontario bilingual schools on September 22, 1927. The new regulations amended the old Regulation 17 to the point where it becmae completely acceptable to Franco-Ontarians. French was recognized as legal in primary schools, bilingual high-schools were accepted, French-Canadian inspectors were to preside over French-Canadian teachers and the University of OTTAWA'S Teacher's College was approved. The committee recomended that bilingual schools should not be recongized but only Public or Separate Schools, either system being enabled to teach in French or English, providing the teaching of English was adequate. French and English directors of education were appointed to supervise the schools and any request to begin French teaching was to be considered by both French and jEnglish directors, the chief inspector of public and separate schools and the inspector of the school concerned; these men would then advise the Minister of Education.

All the above recommendations were put into effect on November 1, 1927. Regulation 17 was erased from the books of Ontario in 1944. Thus came to an end a tragic chapter in the history of this Province.